

A NEW SPECIES OF *CHRESTA* FROM BAHIA,
BRASIL (VERNONIEAE: ASTERCAEAE).

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At the time of the recent restoration of the genus *Chresta* (Robinson, 1980), eleven species were recognized. Material of a twelfth species has now become available among specimens of Asteraceae collected in Bahia by R. M. Harley of the Royal Botanic Gardens at Kew. The material has been forwarded thanks to the kindness of Charles Jeffery. The species is named here in honor of the collector.

CHRESTA HARLEYI H. Robinson, sp. nov.

Plantae herbaceae perennes multo caulescentes non vel paucè ramosae ad 75 cm altae. Radices subtuberosi. Caules erecti teretes dense appresse cinereo-tomentosi. Folia alterna breviter petiolata subsessilia, petiolis 0.5 mm longis; laminae anguste ellipticae plerumque 3-6 cm longae et 0.8-1.1 cm latae inferiores curvatae base cuneatae vel anguste abrupte terminatae margine utrinque 5-10 undulato-dentatae apice anguste acutae supra et subtus dense appresse cinereo-puberulae vel tomentosae subtus densiores, pilis T-formibus. Inflorescentiae in caulis et ramis terminales longe pedunculatae in syncephali solitarii terminatae. Syncephali ca. 2 cm alti et 1.5-2.0 cm lati. Capitula 30-40 sessilia aggregata anguste subcylindrica ca. 3 mm lata; squamae involucri ca. 17 in partibus deciduae appressae ovatae vel lanceolatae 2-12 mm longae et 1-2 mm latae apice argute pungentes anguste subtiliter acuminatae extus virides margine sensim purpureae superne sparse appresse pilosulae. Flores ca. 8 in capitulo in maturate variabili. Corollas purpureae ca. 12 mm longae, tubis ca. 8 mm longis angustis superne leniter latiores et sparse minute stipitato-glanduliferis, faucibus brevibus ca. 0.3 mm longis, lobis lineari-oblongis ca. 3 mm longis et 0.7 mm latis base intus papillosis ad apicem extus multo minute stipitato-glanduliferis; thecae antherarum ca. 1.5 mm longae; appendices antherarum obtusae ca. 0.2 mm longae et 0.25 mm latae; basi stylorum non noduliferi, styli in partibus superioribus sub ramis vix hispiduli, ramis 2.5-3.0 mm longis. Achaenia prismatica ca. 3 mm longa dense sericeo-setulifera; carpodia late obturaculiformia subdisciformia; setae pappi persistentes longiores ca. 20 plerumque 5-7 mm longae distaliter omnino angustiores plerumque prope marginem subbarbellatae; setae exteriores lineares plerumque 1.5-3.0 mm longae. Grana pollinis in diametro 40-47 μ m irregulariter

lophorata cristis humilis minute multo spinuliferis, spinis majoribus nullis (Reticulation between *Chresta* and *Lychnophora* Type).

TYPE: BRASIL: Bahia: Serra Geral de Caitité. 1.5 km S of Brejinhos das Ametistas. Sandstone rocks with scrub & dense low woodland on undisturbed summit. Alt. 900 m. 42° 29' W, 14° 09' S. Herb to ca. 75 cm with several stems arising from one rootstock. Stems grey leaves grey with undulate margins, Phyllaries green with purple tinged margins. Corolla purple. 11 April 1980. R. M. Harley, G. L. Bromley, A. M. de Carvalho, J. L. Hage & H. S. Brito 21228 (Holotype, CEPEC; isotype, US).

Chresta harleyi was originally distributed under the name *Chresta martii* (DC.) H. Robinson, and seems to be rather closely related to that species. The latter species is easily distinguished, however, by its broadly ovate distinctly petiolate leaves. The leaves also seem more crowded toward the base of the plant in *C. martii*. The inflorescence of the latter has broader, blunter, more pubescent, spine-tipped involucre bracts, and there is an elongation of the syncephalum axis as it ages that is not evident in even the oldest inflorescence of the new species. The geographic distribution also seems distinct, the new species being from southern Bahia. The related *C. martii* is known only from northern Bahia northward into Piahy.

Literature Cited

- Robinson, H. 1980. Notes on the Lychnophorine genera *Chresta* and *Eremanthus* (Vernonieae: Asteraceae). *Phytologia* 45: 89-100.



Chresta harleyi H. Robinson, Isotype, United States National Herbarium. Photo by Victor E. Krantz, Staff Photographer, National Museum of Natural History.